

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A device for securing a sealing member in a predetermined position, said device comprising:

(a) a positioning element of a predetermined size and shape having a first surface and a second surface;

(b) a retaining element formed as an annulus of a predetermined size and shape disposed on at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element; said annulus having an inner diameter identical to an inner diameter of said positioning element,

(c) a bevel having a first end and a second end formed on an outer edge of said annulus such that said at least one of first surface and said second surface and said bevel forming a ledge extending from a lower portion of said bevel to an outer edge of said at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element; and

(d) a radius disposed tangent to said at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element and transitioning smoothly into said first end of said bevel formed on said outer edge of said retaining member.

2. (Previously Amended) The device according to claim 1 wherein said positioning element and said retaining element

are an annulus having an inside diameter and an outside diameter.

3. (Original) The device according to claim 1 wherein said positioning element and said retaining element are integrally formed.

4. (Original) The device according to claim 1 wherein said retaining element is disposed on said first surface of said positioning element.

5. (Original) The device according to claim 2 wherein said inside diameter of said retaining element is substantially equal to said inside diameter of said positioning element.

6. (Original) The device according to claim 2 wherein said outside diameter of said retaining element is smaller than said outside diameter of said positioning element.

7.-9. (CANCELLED)

10. (Currently Amended) A device for securing a plurality of sealing members in a predetermined position, said device comprising:

(a) two positioning elements of a predetermined size and shape, each of said two positioning elements having a first outer surface and a second radially opposed inner surface;

(b) two retaining elements formed as two annuluses of a predetermined size and shape disposed on said first outer surface of said positioning elements; each of said annuluses having an inner diameter identical to an inner diameter of said positioning elements,

(c) a bevel having a first end and a second end formed on an outer edge of each of said annuluses such that said first surface and said bevel form a ledge, a radius disposed tangent to said at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element and transitioning smoothly into said first end of said bevel formed on said outer edge of said retaining member; and

(d) a spacer means of a predetermined size and shape engageable with each of said radially opposed inner surface of said two positioning elements for locating said two positioning elements a predetermined distance from each other, said two positioning elements and said two retaining elements and said spacer means being formed integrally as a single piece.

11.-13. (CANCELLED)

14. (Original) The device according to claim 10 wherein said spacer means is a plurality of posts of a predetermined length disposed intermediate said positioning elements.

15. (Original) The device according to claim 14 wherein said plurality is four.

16. (Currently Amended) In combination with a pressure release valve having a high pressure port, a low pressure port, a spool valve, check valve, and a reset spool, said spool valve, check valve, and reset spool further having a plurality of spool valve shells, the improvement comprising:

(a) such spool valve shell having two positioning elements of a predetermined size and shape;

(b) two retaining elements formed as annuluses of a predetermined size and shape disposed on said first surface of each of said two retaining elements of said positioning elements, each of said annuluses having an inner diameter identical to an inner diameter of said positioning element; at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element;

(c) a bevel having a first end and a second end formed on an outer edge of each of said annuluses such that said at least one of first surface and said second surface and said bevel

forming a ledge extending from a lower portion of said bevel to an outer edge of said at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element;

(d) a radius disposed tangent to said at least one of said first surface and said second surface of said positioning element and transitioning smoothly into said first end of said bevel formed on said outer edge of said retaining member;

(e) a spacer means of a predetermined size and shape for locating said positioning elements a predetermined distance from each other; and

(f) a sealing member of a predetermined size and shape disposed intermediate two opposing said positioning elements of two such adjacent spool valve shells, whereby said retaining elements on opposing said positioning elements secure said sealing member in position when such pressure release valve is actuated.

17. (Original) The combination according to claim 16 wherein said positioning elements and said retaining elements have an inside diameter and an outside diameter.

18. (Original) The combination according to claim 17 wherein said inside diameter of said retaining elements is

substantially equal to said inside diameter of said positioning elements.

19. (Original) The combination according to claim 17 wherein said outside diameter of said retaining elements is smaller than said outside diameter of said positioning elements.

20. (Original) The combination according to claim 16 wherein said sealing member is an o-ring.

21. (Original) The combination according to claim 20 wherein said o-ring material is nitrile.